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# Digest

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JANUARY 30, 1954

There is vast planning in Canada, not overlooking The Seaway, which we, in Canada, are beginning to take for granted, but which is about the biggest venture which Canada has promoted for herself, although she has been dreaming and talking about it for close to fifty years.

What has delayed Canada on The Seaway, is her desire to have the United States build The Seaway with her.

I think, that we people, of Canada, were somewhat nervous about the amount of money The Seaway would cost, and that is why we waited so long, and patiently, for the United States to become a partner on the Seaway Plan, despite the political stalling.

However, during the long years of waiting, Canada has become a world-power. Canada spent so many billions of dollars, during the war and post-war years, and she has planned the expenditure of so many billions of dollars, that the cost of building The Seaway, on her own, no longer presents a frightening ogre.

Some timid Canadians felt very happy, when the U.S. Senate, which Governmental Body has repeatedly opposed, for the past twenty years, U.S. participation with Canada in the St. Lawrence River Project, recently endorsed President Eisenhower's Administration's Seaway Plan.

It is now up to the U.S. Congress, which Legislative Body may or may not approve The Seaway Plan as promoted by Canada, as a joint enterprise.

There is, however, a feeling growing in Canada, that Canada should build The Seaway on her own. But since Prime Minister St. Laurent, last May, had a Seaway Conference with President Eisenhower, and they agreed, in Washington, on a joint Seaway Project, providing Congress approved The Plan, without too much delay, should Congress say, "Yes", how can Canada, being a good neighbor, and having for so many years endeavored to persuade the U.S. Senate and Congress to say, "Yes", refuse to go through with the Joint Plan?

Apropos of building the Seaway alone, or doing it in cooperation with the United States, there is a very informative and interesting editorial in The Toronto

## The Seaway

Daily Star of Jan. 23rd., the heading which is "Progress through Cooperation."

The editorial, to which I refer, cites the opposition of the American Medical Association to health insurance, and quotes the American Medical Association as having attributed all medical advances to, "the American system of free enterprise."

"It is not disparaging to the medical profession to dispute such claims. As medical historians know, in all branches of science, progress has been and continues to be made through cooperative efforts on local, national and international scales. Scholars, technicians, and craftsmen all over the world have contributed to discoveries and knowledge by which mankind have benefited", states the editorial.

Cooperation appears to have been the great impulse which has brought the Miracle Drugs, since the War, into general use, and which has, for over a quarter of a century, made more advances in medicine, than had been achieved in a hundred previous years.

Sulfa drugs were discovered by a German chemist, Gerhard Domagk. Alexander Fleming, a Scottish scientist, was the co-discoverer of Penicillin, with a German.

A Russian-born biochemist, Dr. Selman Waksman, employed with pay, by Rutgers University, discovered the antibiotic streptomycin, through which, T.B. has lost its sinister name as, The Big Killer.

We are familiar with The Story of Louis Pasteur, Warner Bros. produced this story as a motion picture in 1935, with Paul Muni as its star, and the characterization won for Paul Muni, an Academy Award.

Louis Pasteur was a French chemist. The pasteurization of milk, was a revolutionary idea, and one with which we are most familiar, but what most of us do not know, is that Louis Pasteur dis-

covered "the germ theory of disease, the basis on which modern medicine rests."

A German, Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen, invented the X-ray machine. Paul Ehrlich, a German Jew, discovered salvarsan, said to have been the first effective drug for treating syphilis.

French and Polish research workers, Paul and Marie Curie discovered Radium.

The editorial further states, that in a book, Discoverers for Medicine, by Dr. William R. Woglom of Yale University, he draws attention to many important contributions to medicine "made by laymen in various parts of the world."

An English clergyman, the Rev. Dr. Stephen Hales, first measured blood pressure.

Benjamin Franklin invented bifocal glasses. For centuries South American Indians used quinine for malaria.

All of which cites the importance in the world of cooperation.

Aside from the vast sum of money involved, which is, as I have heard it said, "only money", Uncle Sam has been promoting gigantic projects, all over the United States, for many years.

I do not say, that we, in Canada, cannot promote gigantic projects successfully on our own, but experience can not only save money, it can also save Time, and certainly add considerably to the efficiency of any job.

Coming closer to home, that is our own motion picture industry in Canada, without the cooperation of the American film industry, we would be no further advanced as a Canadian Film Industry, than other countries of our population.

Encouraged by the investment of American money, and by franchises for American-made pictures, which insured a supply of product, Canadian showmen and financiers invested in Canadian Film Enterprise.

The angle of providing a film trade outlet in Canada, does not diminish the cooperative spirit of enterprise.

As for Hollywood, had not our early picture pioneers welcomed the cooperative services of stars, producers, directors, and stories from the countries of the world, including motion picture tech-

(Continued on Page 4)

ERNEST HEMINGWAY, WORLD-FAMOUS AUTHOR AND HIS WIFE, ON EAST AFRICA SAFARI HAD A PLANE CRASH NEAR LOCALE OF SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO — MIRACULOUS ESCAPE FROM DEATH, WHEN THEIR RESCUE PLANE ALSO CRASHED AND BURNT.





# ALL THE NEWS ABOUT M-G-M's ANNIVERSARY IS GREAT!

Everybody's getting into M-G-M's "Jubilee" parade!

The exhibitors of America agree it's the biggest opportunity in years to capitalize locally on an enthusiastic nationwide celebration!

And M-G-M's saying it with pictures!

M-G-M's great CinemaScope attraction "KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE" (in *COLOR* magnificence! — *Robert Taylor, Ava Gardner, Mel Ferrer*) is terrific at Music Hall, N.Y., and is a sensation in every engagement!

Hundreds of theatres are getting set to launch the Lucille Ball-Desi Arnaz comedy smash "THE LONG, LONG TRAILER" (gorgeous in *COLOR*!) for WASHINGTON's BIRTHDAY on the wave of a million-dollar advertising, TV and promotional saturation!

And already the Coast is buzzing with golden whispers about the industry's FIRST BIG MUSICAL in CINEMASCOPE, M-G-M's wonderful *COLOR*-glorious "ROSE MARIE" (*Ann Blyth, Howard Keel, Fernando Lamas.*) Followed by two great attractions filmed in authentic locations abroad: the thrilling Technicolor romance "RHAPSODY" (*Elizabeth Taylor, Vittorio Gassman*) and the powerful Technicolor drama "FLAME AND THE FLESH" (*Lana Turner, Pier Angeli, Carlos Thompson.*)

And everything you've heard about M-G-M's coming "EXECUTIVE SUITE" is true. One of the all-time Greats, each role enacted by a top star! (*William Holden, June Allyson, Barbara Stanwyck, Fredric March, Walter Pidgeon, Shelley Winters, Paul Douglas, Louis Calhern.*)

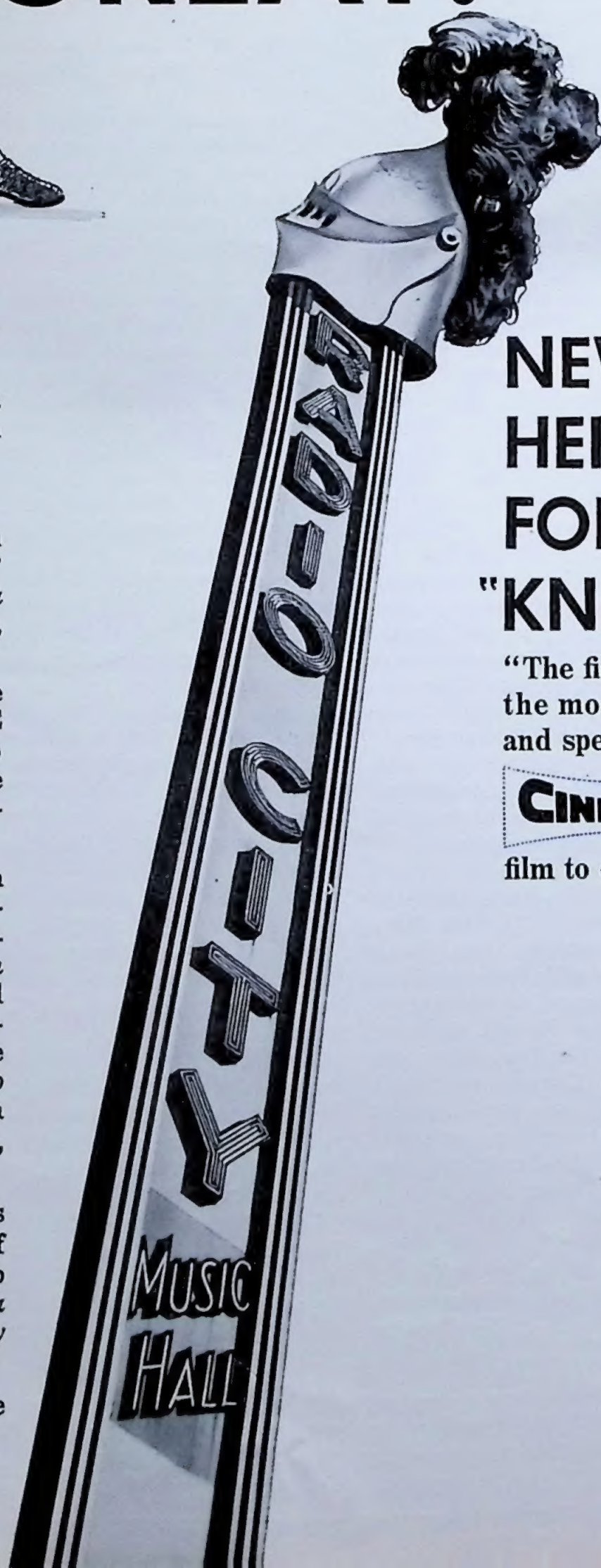
That's just a part of what is destined to be M-G-M's Biggest Year!

## NEW HEIGHTS FOR "KNIGHTS!"

"The finest and by far the most entertaining and spectacular of any

**CINEMASCOPE**

film to date." — *Zunser, Cue Magazine*





# Ray Presents



**I**F I may be permitted to express an opinion, on the changing of the clauses governing the Production Seal, which is not as simple as London's Changing of the Guard, the question requires serious consideration.

The analogy is not as incongruous as it appears to be, for is not the Production Code or Seal, in the nature of a Production Guard?

*If we mentally review the pictures, which we have seen in our theatres, those in particular, which the Censor Boards have labelled, Adult Entertainment, among these are pictures which we could not show, two decades ago, without numerous deletions spoiling the continuity and entertainment value of the story and action.*

*With rare exception, all of these Adult pictures, which we have been showing, have had a Production Seal.*

**I** REMEMBER a good deal about the Production Code, as Martin Quigley, worked on it. I would not say, that it rigidly follows, "a straight and narrow path", as it stands.

I recall the unpleasant publicity which followed the activities of a certain Reverend Gentleman, who trapped the Industry into writing a lengthy list of Sins, which the authors of the list said the Industry could commit in pictures, but had not, following which being duly "armed to the teeth", with the list of possible sins, the Reverend duly strengthened his appeal for Government Control, by handing a Representative of the U.S. Government the odious and perilous list.

*From that time on Producers learned, that it was better to have their lawyers write letters for them, and to certainly think before they made up sinful lists.*

**W**E are agreed, that there is much more open discussion concerning subjects which ten years ago, or more, were discussed with softened voices, as for twenty or thirty years ago, only the "Intelligensia" discussed Intimate Relations freely.

*Having this in mind, the Production Code could be reviewed by Mr. Breen and the officers of the M.P.P.A.*

*If the reviewing of the Code becomes wide open, with everyone wishing to get into the possible revision of the Code, we will finish up with Women's Clubs, Government Welfare and Educational Agencies, Exhibitors Associations, some Independent Producers, who have one picture in a year to consider, the Movie Critics of the Daily Press, and Magazines, all willing to express and incorporate their respective opinions, and we will have a Disturbing Problem making Poor Public Relations for us.*

**H**ERE is definitely a case to be handled, "Not For the Press, No Comments, No Interviews, but for a job to be done quietly by as few people as possible, and when the job is finished, still no Public Comment.

*If we can accomplish this, I will say that our Industry is at last smartening up on diplomacy.*

**R**EPUBLIC PICTURES President, Herbert Y. Yates, in announcing Republic plans for 1954 Picture releases, states that Republic will have 22 top-budget pictures, including a backlog of eight pictures with a total cost of \$15,000,000.

Republic will, in addition, release three Judy Canova productions and four Rex Allen Westerns. There will, also, be two serials.

*An appropriation of \$4,700,000 has been allocated for advertising, publicity and the exploitation of the 29 productions to be released in 1954.*

*Mr. Yates said, "our faith in this Industry, has been substantially proved, during the past year, by the outstanding public acceptance of truly fine motion pictures. For this reason Republic has searched the publishing field thoroughly for best-selling novels, and has secured top box-office stars and production personnel for its new program, a majority of which will be filmed in Trucolor by Consolidated."*

**A**MONG the Republic Pictures listed are a number which read particularly exciting. Given Bristow's best-selling novel, Jubilee Trail, produced in Trucolor, starring Vera Ralston, Joan Leslie, Forrest Tucker, John Russell, Ray Middleton and Pat O'Brien, which opened, Jan. 15 at Saenger Theatre, New Orleans.

*Joan Crawford's first picture with a Western background, in Trucolor from the novel by Roy Chanslor, with Sterling Hayden, Scott Brady and Mercedes McCambridge.*

**H**ERBERT WILCOX production, Laughing Annie, in Technicolor, starring Wendell Corey, Margaret Lockwood, and Forrest Tucker.

*Trouble in the Glen, produced in Scotland, in Trucolor, starring Margaret Lockwood, Orson Welles, Forrest Tucker, Victor McLaglen and John McCallum.*

**H**EADING the coming productions are, The Big Whisper, to be directed in Berlin, by John Ford, and produced by Virginia Van Upp; Brother Van, The Life of Richard Wagner and The Passion Play, the three in Trucolor.

*Timber Jack, in Trucolor, on Vancouver Island. These are but a few of the forthcoming program of pictures, which in Canada are released through Empire-Universal.*

**N**EVER heard Mr. Yates selling the Industry short, and he has backed up his ever-ready optimism with consistently entertaining pictures over a long period of years.

Mr. Yates gave Jimmy Grainger a lot of room, in which to make Republic grow, and before Mr. Grainger left the Republic show, to become President of RKO, he organized, in cooperation with Herbert Yates, Republic Pictures standard values of production, so that Republic knew exactly where to go and how to grow, before he joined RKO.

*At the 11th hour, The Canadian Motion Picture Pioneers received four additional applications for membership. Too late to get in last week's Digest, or to include, in rhyme with the Class of 1954.*

*As I am not in a poetic mood this week, the four will have to be satisfied to be announced, in plain English language, as four new inductees of 1954.*

**F**OUR in 1954, it rhymes, but not all rhymes become poetry, and not all poetry rhymes. But enough, I have to hold the reins on Ray Lewis, give her the least excuse and she banks on the coinage of her brain.

*The four are Larry Stephens, International Film Distributors, Stanley J. Malec of Hamilton, Raoul Auerbach, 20th Century Theatres and George Altman, Mavety Film Delivery Service.*

**I**NCIDENTALLY, the total of the new inductees is 27, because Jack D. McCulloch of Petrolia, Ont. was inducted in 1953, which reminds me, that in the early years, Bill Brady was up for induction about six times. Finally he complained, that he had already been inducted.

*While it was true, that he was up for induction several years in succession, he never showed up for the initiation, until one fine day, we caught up with him.*

*However, between you and me, I think, that when-*

*(Continued on Page 5)*



## Toronto and District

By BILL PRESS

The second city in Canada to have two CinemaScope installations is London, Ont.

Manager Fred Jackson of Loew's Theatre announced the opening on Jan. 28 of "Knights of the Round Table" in CinemaScope with considerable fanfare.

Famous Players' Capitol was the first London theatre to feature the special technique with the playing of "The Robe" and Manager Bill Trudell followed with "How to Marry a Millionaire" which opened Jan. 22.

Toronto has CinemaScope at the Imperial and Loew's.

The death occurred in the Oshawa General Hospital of Mrs. Eva F. Young, 80-year-old mother of the late Roly Young, widely known moving picture critic of the Toronto Globe and Mail and previously with the Daily Star.

Born in Nova Scotia, she came to Toronto in 1927 to live with her popular son and later they had resided at suburban Rouge River.

On her return from a prize-winning trip to Britain and France, Carole Ticktin, 16-year-old Forest Hill Village high school student, revealed that she had passed up a film offer from a producer in Paris. She wants to be a nurse.

Miss Ticktin won a contest sponsored by the Toronto Telegram in connection with engagements of "Innocents in Paris" because she most resembled Claire Bloom.

The popular CBC network program, "Singing Stars of Tomorrow," is being staged every Sunday evening this season at the Odeon Theatre, Toronto. The series, in the past, has been conducted in various theatres of Ontario and Quebec.

Two Toronto neighborhood theatres had a flurry of extra-curricular excitement on the same night.

A gunman pulled off a hold-up at the Garden Theatre, owned by M. Rittenberg, but was captured by police after a chase.

The Parliament Theater, a unit of B & F Theatres, was the scene of an armed crook who was foiled by employees and bystanders. An arrest followed in this case, too, when the gunman was followed by Donald Robinson, theatre doorman.

The tariffs for performing rights of the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada for theatres across the country, will be unchanged from last year, according to information from the office of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

## Maritime News

HELEN CROWLEY

Columbia Pictures of Canada Limited, Distributors of the National Film Board films, co-operated recently in a "Doctor Trueman Welcome Drive." This drive lasted seven long months with Columbia offices everywhere across Canada straining after the prize. Perhaps it goes without saying that Lou Simon and his capable staff finished in first position! New Brunswick is Dr. Trueman's home province—and, for a time he was located in Saint John as Superintendent of Schools. Rather a strange coincidence, he spent several years as President of the University of Manitoba and, Manitoba happens to be Lou Simon's home territory. Anyway, Mr. Simon and his staff are in line for congratulations and, they feel it was the splendid co-operation received from Maritime Province Exhibitors that placed this office out in front and are very grateful for such loyal support.

Mr. James N. Blissel, Advertising Manager for the Glowmeter Corp. of New York City, manufacturers of the fabric from which the Astralite Screen is made, spent some time recently in Saint John and Halifax.

Friends in the Industry will extend sympathy to Mr. Harold Gaudet, well-

## THE CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

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known exhibitor of Summerside, PEI, in the death of his sister, Mrs. Harold Huestis, who passed away at her home in Summerside after a lingering illness. An accomplished musician, for some time Mrs. Huestis played the piano for the silent pictures at the 'Happyland' theatre, owned and operated by her father and later for a time in the present 'Capitol' before the advent of Sound pictures. Out of respect, the 'Capitol' theatre and Bowling Alleys in Summerside remained closed from the time of Mrs. Huestis' death until after the funeral.

## The Seaway

(Continued from Page 1)

nicians, up to this day, with the introduction of CinemaScope, based on the Anamorphic Optical System, invented by a Frenchman, Dr. Henri Chretien, Hollywood would not have become a world-famous name, and the American Film Industry a Billion Dollar Enterprise.

We are all indebted to each other, individually, collectively, nationally and internationally.

No One Corners The Market on Good, or Evil, on Progress. When a Good Idea starts moving, there are many of us who move with it, as a matter of fact, the Idea is so acceptable to us, that the first thing we know we think we gave birth to it.

As an example when the announcement was made, that the Senate in Washington had approved United States co-operation with Canada on the Seaway Project, one Radio Announcer, in making comment, intimated, that having won the Senate's approval, Canada could now give serious thought toward cooperating with the U.S. on the Seaway Plan.

Here is an American who thinks The Seaway Idea is so good, that it is American.

Without the cooperation of executives with workers, workers with workers, executives with executives, no business can operate successfully, nor can any service, irrespective of its altruistic objective, accomplish what is its purpose, without cooperation in leadership and services.



CANADIAN PICTURE PIONEER INDUCTEES OF 1954. Top Row, left to right: H. Braden, Harvey Harnick, Bill Trudell, Dave Gordon, Henry Harvey, Peter Grant, Ralph Dale, D. Daniel, Fred Trebilcock and Jules Wolfe. Bottom row: Fred Doney, R. W. Bolstad, Russ Simpson, Wm. Thornberry, Hugh Usher, Nat Taylor, George Altman, Ed Harris, Raoul Auerbach and William Adams.





Blackstone has Canadian Picture Pioneers, and Press mystified as well as amused with his Magic. Amongst those shown are: Lionel Lester, A. Cass, H. Patte, Barney Fox, Jack Roher, H. Bernstein, Harold Poff, Bill Redpath, Dan Krendel, Clare Appel, Gordon Lightstone, Alf Perry, Ray Lewis, Joe Lewis, J. J. Fitzgibbons, Morris Stein, Ben Freedman, Max Chic, Bob Brooks, Bob McStay, Alec McKay, Len Bishop, Roy Tashe, Harry Lester and Ben Geldsaler. On the right, Blackstone mystifies Maurice Doyle.

## Ray Presents

(Continued from Page 3)

ever Walter Kennedy and Charles Mavety were short on new names to initiate, they said to each other, "Let's initiate Bill Brady."

I can remember Oscar Hanson whispering to me, when he saw little Bill Brady, with his wrap-around apron, "Well I'll be—not again!"

**T**HE Pioneers had one of the largest attended business sessions, which they have had in years, and a largely attended dinner.

Pictures taken in the years gone-by, re-edited, with narration, by Len Bishop, were shown.

There were many amusing as well as sad shots, as we looked at the Pioneers, who are no longer with us.

There was good music, and an unexpected treat, when the veteran Magician, still big box-office, Blackstone, paid us a visit, and mystified a number of wise showmen during a half-hour's presentation. Blackstone, is the Feature Attraction at the Casino Theatre, this week.

**I** HEARD about a change in the Columbia set-up in Canada, over a month ago, involving a transfer of shares. But since Columbia in the U.S. and Columbia in Canada made no official announcement, the Digest published no story.

My mind travels back to the pioneer years in the Canadian Film Industry, for a set-up in Columbia Pictures, which remained structurally unchanged, since the time, The Allens, Louis Rosenfeld, Henry Nathanson, (through N. L. Nathanson), Jules Laine, Arthur Cohen bought the Columbia Pictures Franchise.

**W**ILLIAM Somerset Maugham, has had his 80th birthday. He states, that he has written his last play, his last

novel, his last short story. He is, at present, engaged in writing his last literary essays.

A number of Somerset Maugham's novels and plays, his short stories have been adapted to the screen.

Of Human Bondage, produced by RKO in 1934, starring Leslie Howard and which brought stardom to Bette Davis, as the waitress, and revealed her as one of the most gifted of the younger Hollywood potential stars.

**B**ETTE DAVIS starred, in 1940, in Warner Bros. production of Maugham's play, The Letter. This was another outstanding Bette Davis success.

The Letter, was first produced, in 1929, with the stage star, Jeanne Eagels. Jean Limur directed it for Paramount. Herbert Marshall was the male lead, and in the remake of the story, Herbert Marshall played opposite Bette Davis.

I seem to recall, The Circle, directed by Ernst Lubitsch, an M.G.M. production. A very subtle, satirical story, and at the time of its release, apparently too fine for the groundlings.

The Quartette and Trio are recent history, Moon and Sixpence was produced by Arthur Loew, and released by United Artists. It had as its stars, George Saunders and Herbert Marshall.

In celebration of Somerset Maugham's birthday, Toronto is having a Somerset Maugham week.

If you wonder why writers use the "I" so much in their writing, and many times incorporate, in their writings, their own experiences, it is because, as Somerset Maugham states, "all the writer has to offer, when you come down to brass tacks, is himself."

**M**R. MAUGHAM lived in Paris, until he was ten years old. He came to England and went to school at King's College, Canterbury, and went to Heidel-

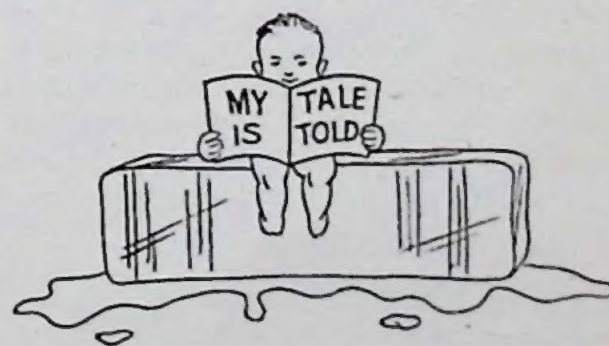
berg University. He studied medicine at St. Thomas Hospital, London.

His first novel, while he was still a student, written in 1897, Liza of Lambeth, which someone is going to produce as a picture, who, at this moment, I cannot remember, was so successful, that he followed a literary career, instead of continuing his studies in medicine.

**H**E wrote for ten years, earning on the average about one hundred pounds a year, until he wrote his first play, Lady Frederick, in 1907.

"Six weeks later, I had four plays running", said Somerset Maugham, in an interview which he gave to Thomas F. Brady, London, as published in the magazine section of the New York Sunday Times.

He was very ill about a year ago, and nearly died. He recovered and is thinking of making a trip to Spain. I hope he lives to be a hundred, and I am here to offer congratulations again.



### 1954 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANADIAN PICTURE PIONEERS

Nat Taylor	Dan Krendel
Harold Pfaff	Frank Fisher
Ed Wells	Bill Redpath
Tom Daley	Frank Vaughan
Clare Appel	Hugh Sedgwick
Morris Stein	

as well as Oscar Hanson and Ray Lewis, ex-officio members.



## TELEMETER FOR CANADA

With the *Telemeter* system now in operation in Palm Springs, California, *Famous Players'* plans for the development of *Telemeter* in Canada are emphasized by the election of *W. C. Thornton Cran* as president of two subsidiary companies — *Trans Canada Telemeter Limited* and *Telemeter (Ontario) Limited*. The directors and officers of the two companies are all executives of *Famous Players Canadian Corporation Limited*: *John J. Fitzgibbons*, vice-president; *R. W. Bolstad*, Treasurer and *Angus MacCunn*, Secretary. *John A. Pouliot* is executive electronic engineer.

*Famous Players* has a 25 year franchise for the licensing of *Telemeter* in Canada.

*Mr. Cran*, the new president of the two *Telemeter* companies, has had a wide experience in the fields of commerce and electronics. As joint managing director of *Broadcast Relay Service (Overseas) Ltd. of England* he negotiated licenses and formed subsidiary companies in 12 countries for broadcasting or wired music operations. Recently he returned to Canada where he formed *Rediffusion Inc.* in Montreal.

Born in England, *Mr. Cran* qualified as a chartered accountant (U.K.) in 1930 and his first position was as resident partner with a firm of chartered accountants in Kobe and Tokyo, Japan. He has been a member of the Ontario Institute of Chartered Accountants since 1941.

*Mr. Cran* was secretary and controller of *Broadcast Relay Service Ltd.* and *Radio & Electrical Developments Ltd.* from 1934 until 1940 when he came to Canada. During the years 1940 to 1945 he formed the *Small Electric Motors (Canada) Ltd.* at Leaside Ontario and the *Semco Instruments Ltd.* He purchased and reorganized *Rogers Majestic Ltd.* and *Rogers Radio Tube Ltd.* and acted as chief executive of this group until the business was sold to *Philips (Holland)* in 1945. Next year, *Mr. Cran* returned to England as executive director of *Philips Lamps Ltd.*, in London and in 1947 he became associated with *Broadcast Relay Service (Overseas) Ltd.* returning to Canada to organize and direct *Rediffusion Inc.* in Montreal.

## CANADIAN CAMEO CONTEST

*M. Barager*, booker for *Empire-Universal Films Ltd.* in Calgary, started the New Year off right. He received a substantial cheque as top man in the 1953 Canadian Cameo contest. Calgary and Winnipeg bookers ran a neck and neck race throughout the several months of the contest. Winnipeg was leading most of the way, but lost out to Calgary in the stretch. The contest was conducted to stimulate bookings of the 25 Canadian Cameo short subjects currently being distributed by *Empire-Universal* for *Associated Screen Studios*.

## D. P. MacDONALD DIES IN SYDNEY

A prominent theatre man and a familiar figure in the business and community life of Sydney for the past thirty years — *Mr. D. P. MacDonald*, 74, died at his residence on January 14th.

Owner of the 'Paramount' and 'Vogue' theatres, two of the largest film houses in Eastern Canada, *Mr. MacDonald* had been ailing during recent months and shortly after Christmas underwent a major operation in the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md. *Mr MacDonald* was born at Little River, Cape Breton, and began his business career as a grocery clerk in his home village.

From Little Narrow he came to Sydney at the beginning of the Steel Plant boom at the start of the present century and for some years was employed in the grocery business. His first business venture was in the year 1900 when with his brother, he opened a shoe store under the name of 'MacDonald Bros.' which is still a well-known stand.

In the 1930's he entered the theatre business when he purchased the old Palace Theatre from the late *Len R. Acker*, and changed the name of the playhouse to the 'Capitol' theatre. He later became associated with *Famous Players* and personally supervised the business for them.

Out of respect to *Mr. MacDonald's* memory, the theatres remained closed until Monday, January 18th, the day of the funeral.

Besides his widow, *Mr. MacDonald* is survived by his aged mother, now 101 years of age and a daughter and step-daughter.

## VANCOUVER PIONEERS HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

The Vancouver Canadian Picture Pioneers Division held their Annual Meeting, with election of officers on Jan. 17th, at the Barn Supper Club.

## CAPITAL AND STRAND KISS ME KATE IN VANCOUVER

*M.G.M.'s* highly successful musical, *Kiss Me Kate*, will play the Capitol in 2-D and the Strand in 3-D, Vancouver.

## IT PAYS TO BE DUMB

The contract between the Screen Extras Guild and Major studios, Hollywood, raises the rate of payment of "Silent Bit Players" from \$40.00 to \$50.00. It pays to be dumb in Hollywood.

## COLUMBIA INSTALLS COLOR PROCESS AT STUDIO

*Columbia Pictures* has installed, at its own laboratory, Hollywood, Beachwood Drive, equipment to process *Eastman Color* Negatives and positive prints.

## ASSOCIATED APPOINTS DIRECTOR OF PROD'N

Appointed Director of Production by *Paul Nathanson*, who recently acquired control of the company, *Gordon Sparling* heads up the production department of Montreal's *Associated Screen Studios* — the largest producers of theatrical, commercial and TV motion pictures in Canada.

For thirty years, *Sparling's* name has been associated with much of the best movie production in the Dominion. Graduating from the University of Toronto, he distinguished himself early in the days of the original Canadian Government Motion Picture Bureau, and then joined the production staff of *Paramount Studios* in the first days of the "talkies."

As a young director of exceptional brilliance, he returned to his native Canada to produce many high-quality films under the *ASN* banner — the most notable series being the "Canadian Cameos," of which he has made more than 80 during a period of some 21 years.

*Sparling's* appointment is another indication of the vigorous steps being taken by *Associated Screen Studios* to continue supplying all that is best in production and laboratory facilities for every phase of the motion picture industry, and in particular the new medium of films for television.

## GARRICK'S FINE ORGAN DEPARTS FOR CINEMASCOPE

The Garrick, Winnipeg's fine organ, a Wick's electric action, three manual and pedal organ with 165 stops, including percussion and traps advertised for sale to make room for the installation of *CinemaScope*.

## Columbia Pictures Corp. Acquires 50 Percent Canadian Shares

*Columbia Pictures Corp.* — *Harry Cohn*, president and *Jack Cohn*, executive president, acquired 50% of the stock of *Columbia Pictures of Canada Ltd.* It is reported that the stock acquired was that of *Henry L. Nathanson*, the *Jules Laine* estate, *Arthur Cohen* and *Paul L. Nathanson*.

Both *Nathansons*, it is reported, will be replaced at the next Board of Directors meeting.

Officers of the Canadian Franchise holder at this time are:

Pres. — *Louis Rosenfeld*; Vice-Pres. — *Henry L. Nathanson*; Sec'y — *Jules Allen*; Treas. — *Paul L. Nathanson*; Gen. Sales Manager — *Harvey Harnick*.



## VANCOUVER NEWS

By JACK DROY

Last year's slate of officers of the Canadian Picture Pioneers (B-C) branch were all re-elected. Members are Bill Myers, President; Jack Zaitzow, vice-president and Steve Rolston, secretary-treasurer. Membership chairman is Jack Droy.

*Purnell and Sons who operate six theatres mostly in the Crows Nest Pass District of Alberta have added three more houses to the circuit, two at Cranbrook with combined seating capacity of 1100, and the Orpheum at Kimberly, a 700-seater all in British Columbia. The brothers have also acquired 60 acres of land in the Crows Nest Pass on which they will erect an outdoor theatre this coming spring. The circuit is an affiliated partner of Famous Players who made an agreement with Purnell, Jan. 1, 1954.*

Harry Pearson, stage manager at the Orpheum for 23 years and President of Local 118 Stage hands union for 30 years and well-known for his efforts in the labor movement died suddenly in his 75th year. He was a member of (B-C) Canadian Picture Pioneers, and retired from show business a year ago.

*Old time exhibitor, Frank Bailey, who opened the Lux in Regina, Sask. back in 1908 died in his 83rd year. His son operates the moving picture house at Humboldt, Sask.*

British Columbia will be allowed to see "Martin Luther" which was passed by the censors in its entirety. Film was rejected by the Quebec Censor Board.

*Henry Heck, formerly with General Films (16 mm) exchange replaced Bob Billings as office manager at 20th-Fox.*

## U-A'S WHITE ORCHID

Arthur Krim, President of U-A announces, White Orchid, Reginald Le Borg's production scheduled to go before the cameras in Mexico, in February. Eastman color and Wide-Screen.

## ALL'D ART'S MAY HAVE ASSOC. BRITISH IN DEAL

Reports include Associated British in a deal with Allied Artists, including William Wyler, John Huston, Billy Wilder and several other well-known producers. Pictures to be released as Allied Artists. Associated may handle European and British distribution under the plan.

## THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS

The caption is the title of a new picture to be produced by 20th Century-Fox, with Ethel Merman.

## Walter Wilson Honored In Edmonton

Edmonton's theatre men gathered in the Macdonald Hotel on Tuesday night, January 12th, at a testimonial dinner in honor of the dean of showmen, Walter Wilson, whose retirement as active manager of the Paramount theatre was announced. He will be succeeded by his son, Bill.

Walter Wilson has been in show business for 42 years and is a charter member of Famous Players' 25 Year Club.

Edward A. Zorn, who came from Winnipeg to act as toastmaster at the dinner, told his audience: "Walter Wilson is the most respected theatre manager this company has and he has proven to be one of the most valuable of our men because of his great personality and appreciation of friendship."

During his 30 years in Edmonton, Wilson managed the Capitol theatre for 29 years and he became famous as the originator of the Edmonton Annual Rose Show. Walter also has his own radio show and is the self-styled "world's worst announcer."

Walter was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, in 1876 and he came to Canada in 1909. He was first employed by the CNR in Winnipeg but soon became secretary-treasurer of an early chain of theatres. Walter managed 3 theatres in Winnipeg. In 1923 he came to Edmonton as manager of the Capitol Theatre.

He will continue to be identified with Famous Players as Director of Theatre Management for the theatres of the company and its associates in Edmonton. He also plans to continue his daily radio program and to devote more time to the promotion of rose growing for which he became internationally famous.

Mr. Zorn announced that Bill Wilson, who has managed the Capitol theatre since 1952 and was for some years before that at the Garneau, will step into his father's job as manager of the Paramount.

B. H. Wiber of the Empress Theatre becomes manager of the Capitol Theatre and Jack Proudlove will come in from Fort William to take over the Empress Theatre.

## BOY FROM OKLAHOMA 615 THEATRE OPENING

Warner Bros., Boy From Oklahoma starts off with 615 theatres. The picture, stars Will Rogers Jr. and Nancy Olson. World Premiere, Yale Theatre, Claremore, Okla.

Kansas City Premiere, Paramount Theatre, Jan. 28th. Benefit opening night March of Dimes, personal attendance of Will Rogers Jr., and many State, Civic and Show Business leaders as guests.

## JUDY HOLLIDAY DUMB AGAIN LIKE A FOX

Judy Holliday, that very smart dumb girl of Born Yesterday fame, will star in, It Should Happen To You, for Columbia Pictures, story by Garson Kanin, direction by George Cukor, released in March.

## ROTHSTEINS OF WPG. BUILDING IN YORKTON

There will be a new theatre, a 650-seat house in Yorktown. The theatre is under construction now, being built by the Rothsteins.

## ST. LOUIS IS TENTH U.S. THEATRE FOR CINERAMA

The Ambassador, St. Louis will be the 10th theatre in the U.S. to show, This Is Cinerama. The opening will be Feb. 10. The opening night will be sponsored by Variety Club. Regular shows, two-a-day, will follow on Feb. 11th.

## DAWN AT SOCONO

Alex Nicol, formerly under contract to Universal-Inter. returns to co-star in Dawn at Socono at the U-I Studio. In Technicolor, the picture, also, stars, Rory Calhoun, Piper Laurie, David Brian, Kathleen Hughes.

## MORRIS KRIM DIES

Morris Krim, 83, died suddenly in New York, Jan. 13th. He was the father of Arthur B. Krim, President of U-A.

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## JULIUS CAESAR

Julius Caesar, the MGM Shakespearian production with its all-star big names cast, has the distinction of being set for the world-wide MGM Festival celebration. It is now in its 35th week of continuous run in New York.

It opened at the Towne Cinema six weeks ago in Toronto, and is playing to excellent business.

## COMPO ORGANIZES FOR REPEAL OF TAX

Compo is really getting itself set to soften opposition to the Repeal of the 20 percent admission tax, by hiring personnel to tell the public its story through the Press.

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## TRADE headlines



Walter Wanger, Allied Artists producer, during a press conference said, "The Industry can't have its Code and eat it too."

Max E. Youngstein, U-A vice-president, reports *Moulin Rouge* as U-A's top grosser for 1953 in the Domestic Market, with a gross over \$5,000,000; *Moon Is Blue* ran second with over \$4,000,000, and *Return To Paradise*, third, with over \$2,000,000.

Pete Smith retires after 29 years with MGM. He was studio publicity director until 1931, following which he became short subject producer, producing close to 290 short subjects.

Two Decca shares for one share of Universal offered on the market to the extent of 145,842 Decca common shares of the capital stock, formerly unissued, point to a merger. Decca now holds 59.6 percent of Universal common shares.

Italian Industry's organization, (Anica), directive council, recommended that fee for dubbing pictures into Italian, shall be increased from \$4,000 to \$16,000. Anica, also recommended increase of playing time for native productions from 90 days to 120 days in the year.

B & K's State-Lake Theatre, Chicago, did a gross of over \$850,000 for a 16 weeks' run on *The Robe*.

Gina Lollobrigida, Italian star, makes her debut in American picture, *Beat The Devil*, directed by John Huston, a U-A release.

Canadian Picture Pioneers have full Film Trade Pioneer representation at 13th Annual Meeting and Dinner. Oscar Hanson co-ordinator of fine committee provide entertaining and interesting evening with 27 new inductees.

MGM is releasing 30 pictures in 1954, with 24 in color.

Al Perry is telling everyone, "Wait until you see the Glenn Miller Story, that's a picture." The President of Empire-Universal should know, it's a Universal Picture.

Carl Peppercorn, representing RKO as General Sales Manager in Canada, resigns to go into Dairy Maid Chocolate Co. Ltd., as President of the company.



## CAPITAL STORY

By BILL McLAUGHLIN

The government has not yet made its decision to move the National Film Board to Montreal, Prime Minister St. Laurent told the House of Commons the other day in replying to questions on the subject by Opposition Leader Drew. The government gave no indication of which way the decision would go. Observers

here believe the Cabinet is widely split on the issue but have to decide very shortly as whether to go ahead with the Montreal project, to remain in Ottawa only as a distribution centre for privately made productions, or to remain in the production field with the present inadequate facilities and to build new studios here at some future date.



Use This Information As Your Guide on Release Dates

### TORONTO

#### IMPERIAL

Fifth week. *How To Marry A Millionaire* (20th-Fox) CinemaScope and Technicolor with Marilyn Monroe.

#### SHEA'S

*Hondo* (WB) Warnercolor and 3-D with John Wayne.

#### UNIVERSITY & EGLINTON

Fifth week. *Little Boy Lost* (Para.) with Bing Crosby.

#### NORTOWN

*Here Come The Girls* (Para.) Technicolor with Bob Hope.

#### ODEON-CARLTON

*Dangerous Crossing* (20th-Fox) with Jeanne Crain.

#### HYLAND

Second week. *The Sinner* (Astral) with Hildgarde Neff.

#### UPTOWN

Fourth week. *Kiss Me Kate* (MGM) Technicolor and 3-D with Kathryn Grayson.

#### LOEW'S

Second week. *Knights of the Round Table* (MGM) CinemaScope and Technicolor with Robert Taylor.

#### TOWNE CINEMA

Fifth week. *Julius Caesar* (MGM). All star cast.

### MONTREAL

#### PALACE

Fourth week. *How To Marry A Millionaire* (20th-Fox) CinemaScope and Technicolor with Marilyn Monroe.

#### LOEW'S

*Mogambo* (MGM) Technicolor with Clark Gable and Ava Gardner.

#### PRINCESS

*Take The High Ground* (MGM) Ansco Color with Richard Widmark.

#### CAPITOL

*Island In The Sky* (WB) with John Wayne.

#### ORPHEUM

*99 River Street* (UA) and *The Neanderthal Man* (UA).

#### IMPERIAL

*Conquest of Cochise* (Col.) Technicolor with John Hodiak.

#### AVENUE

Fourth week. *The Man Between* (IFD) with James Mason.

#### KENT

Fourth week. *The Conquest of Everest* (JARO) Technicolor.

#### AVON

*Enrico Caruso* (Cardinal) with Gina Lollobrigida.

#### ALOUETTE

Second week. *Spartacus*.

### WINNIPEG

#### CAPITOL

Second week. *Little Boy Lost* (Para.) with Bing Crosby.

#### MET

*The Big Heat* (Col.) with Glenn Ford.

#### GAIETY

Fourth week. *The Captain's Paradise* (IFD) with Alec Guinness.

#### OSBOURNE

*The Conquest of Everest* (JARO) Technicolor.

#### VALOUR

*Macbeth* (Rep.) with Orson Welles.

#### ODEON

*Affair in Monte Carlo* (AA) Technicolor with Merle Oberon.

### VANCOUVER

#### CAPITOL

*So Big* (WB) with Jane Wyman.

#### ORPHEUM

*Calamity Jane* (WB) Technicolor with Doris Day.

#### STRAND

*Appointment In Honduras* (RKO) with Glenn Ford.

#### STUDIO

*Martin Luther* (IFD).

#### VOGUE

*Moulin Rouge* (UA) Technicolor with Jose Ferrer.

#### PLAZA

*Wings of the Hawk* (E-U) Technicolor and 3-D with Van Heflin.

### SAINT JOHN

#### PARAMOUNT

*How To Marry A Millionaire* (20th-Fox) CinemaScope and Technicolor with Marilyn Monroe.

#### STRAND

*His Majesty O'Keefe* (WB) Technicolor with Burt Lancaster.

#### CAPITOL

*Flight To Tangier* (Para.) Technicolor with Joan Fontaine.

#### KENT

*Jack Slade* (AA) with Mark Stevens.

## COLUMBIA'S FIRST IN CINEMASCOPE

Columbia Pictures' first CinemaScope production will be the Technicolor musical, "The Pleasure Is All Mine," starring Betty Grable, Jack Lemmon and Marge and Gower Champion. Jean Negulesco has been borrowed from 20th Century-Fox to direct, executive producer Jerry Wald disclosed. Negulesco joined producer Joni Taps at Columbia January 5, when dance rehearsals started under the direction of Jack Cole. Negulesco recently completed the Technicolor CinemaScope production, "We Believe In Love," and currently has on the screen the first Technicolor CinemaScope musical, "How To Marry A Millionaire."

Foto-Nite jackpot has reached the colossal sum of \$2,850 at this writing. A tidy bit of cash for the lucky one who gets the call at the Centre, Eastview, Francais, Glebe, Linden, Somerset or Westboro theatres.

Cashing in on the publicity surrounding the choice of Audrey Hepburn by the New York Film Critics Circle as the Best Actress of the Year, the Linden Theatre gave *Roman Holiday* an extra-special advertising campaign. Result: the movie attracted large crowds and was held over for additional showings at Casey Swedlove's popular East End neighborhood spot.

The Science Film Group of Ottawa held a showing of interesting subjects at the National Museum before a large audience. Program comprised *Can Machines Think?* *Radiosotope-Methodology* and *Web of Life*.

The Capitol Theatre held over its Botany Bay for further showings following a night of orchestral and violin music. The Royal Winnipeg Ballet due in for one performance on February 3, according to present stage show bookings on Manager Ray Tubman's desk.



MARK POTTTEL  
Sales Manager, Empire-Universal Films



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